Unknown

From: Colberg, Talis J (LAW) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=TJCOLBERG]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 7:16 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Re: PR DoL A Short Explanation of the Law on GubernatorialSuccession082908

A home run. Talis

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)
Sent: Fri Aug 29 18:20:50 2008
Subject: Re: PR DoL A Short Explanation of the Law on GubernatorialSuccession082908

Holy Moly! And you may get somewhere "else" without having to spring for the doughnuts to serve Sean!
Thanks again for doing the Right-of-Way speech for me. And thanks for holding down the fort and keeping things running along- I will talk to you soon and will hopefully be in AK on Sunday.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>
Date: Fri, 29 Aug 2008 18:19:52 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: PR DoL A Short Explanation of the Law on Gubernatorial Succession082908

Dear governor and vp palin. Wow. McCain palin tee shirts are already selling and being worn in significant numbers at the state fair. Congratulations. Talis.

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
To: Burkert, Erin E (GOV); Jenicek, Monica (LAW)
Cc: Jones, David T (LAW); Colberg, Talis J (LAW)
Sent: Fri Aug 29 18:07:44 2008
Subject: Re: PR DoL A Short Explanation of the Law on Gubernatorial Succession082908

Thank you very much, this is helpful.

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Burkert, Erin E (GOV)" <erin.burkert@alaska.gov>
Date: Fri, 29 Aug 2008 16:51:00 -0800
To: Jenicek, Monica (LAW)<monica.jenicek@alaska.gov>
CC: Jones, David T (LAW)<dave.jones@alaska.gov>
Subject: PR DoL A Short Explanation of the Law on Gubernatorial Succession 082908

A Short Explanation of the Law on Gubernatorial Succession

For Immediate Release:
August 29, 2008

The Department of Law has received a number of press inquiries on how the Alaska constitution and state statutes address what might happen if Governor Sarah Palin was elected Vice President, and if Lieutenant Governor Sean Parnell was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in the upcoming November 2008 election. Here is a brief explanation.

If, in the November election, Lieutenant Governor Parnell is elected to Congress and Governor Palin is elected Vice President, and both remain in their current state offices until they assume those federal offices, the following would occur:

- At noon on January 3, 2009, Lieutenant Governor Parnell would become Alaska's U.S. Representative.
- Once Lieutenant Governor Parnell left his state office, the designated successor to the lieutenant governor – currently Attorney General Talis Colberg – would become lieutenant governor. Governor Palin would then designate another person to succeed to the office of lieutenant governor in the event of a subsequent vacancy in that office. That designation would be subject to legislative confirmation.
- At noon on January 20, 2009, Governor Palin would become Vice President. The person who succeeded Lieutenant Governor Parnell as lieutenant governor (Attorney General Colberg) would then become acting governor, pending a special election. The special election would be held no earlier than March 21, 2009, and no later than April 20, 2009.

No special election for governor and lieutenant governor would be necessary unless both Governor Palin and Lieutenant Governor Parnell won federal office and left their state offices before the end of their current terms. So if Attorney General Colberg became the acting governor through succession, there would be a special election to fill the office of governor and the office of lieutenant governor. But if Lieutenant Governor Parnell became governor through succession and remained in that office until the end of the current term, there would be no special election to fill either office.

For questions, please contact Senior Assistant Attorney General David Jones at 907-269-5169.

###

Unknown

From: Maiken Erickson [maiken.integrated@alaska.net]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 2:30 PM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); Kreitzer; Annette E (DOA)
Subject: Protest to Notice of Award IRFP 2008-0200-8061

To Whom It May Concern:

Please see the attached protest to award IRFP 2008-0200-8061.

Thank you,

Maiken A. Erickson, Research Analyst
Integrated Realty Resources, Inc
800 E. Dimond Blvd., Suite 3-310
Anchorage, AK 99515
Direct: 907.341.2255
Main: 907.929.2226
Mobile: 907.440.9540
Fax: 907.929.2260
Email: maiken.integrated@alaska.net

Unknown

From: Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=RHUGHES]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 5:04 AM
To: 'sp@hslak.com'
Subject: Re: Blessings

Moms and dads in Dallas, San Antonio, Chattanooga, Tallahassee, Wilmington and Columbia, SC -- all over this country -- are praying for you, Governor. No weapon formed against you will prosper. Knock 'em dead!!

From: sp@hslak.com
To: Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV)
Sent: Wed Sep 03 01:39:03 2008
Subject: Re: Blessings

Thank you my friend!!! Tonight's the speech

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

From: "Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV)" <rosanne.hughes@alaska.gov>
Date: Fri, 29 Aug 2008 15:18:04 -0800
To: <sp@hslak.com>
Subject: RE: Blessings

I'm asking all my prayer partners to intercede for you.

Rosanne Hughes
Director of External Communications
(907) 269-7450

From: sp@hslak.com [mailto:sp@hslak.com]
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2008 3:08 PM
To: Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV); Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: Re: Blessings

Thank you- love you! Say your prayers!

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

From: "Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV)" <rosanne.hughes@alaska.gov>
Date: Fri, 29 Aug 2008 14:47:36 -0800
To: <sp@hslak.com>;Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)<governor@alaska.gov>
Subject: Blessings
We are so proud of you. All of Alaska is so proud of you. You hit that speech out of the ballpark -- with only one hour to rehearse it? It was surreal for us as your staff to watch you on TV on stage with Sen. McCain ... like an out of body experience. We were in tears. God bless.

Unknown

From: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SWLEIGHOW]

Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 7:30 PM

To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'

Subject: YOUR SPEECH WAS AWESOME!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

465-4031 Juneau
269-7450 Anchorage
240-7943 cell

Unknown

From: McAllister, William D (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=WDMCALLISTER]

Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 9:12 PM

To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'

Subject: Fw: Mississippian .... Gov. Palin's Speech ... WOW

Sent using BlackBerry

From: TiffanyStrunk@aol.com
To: McAllister, William D (GOV)
Sent: Wed Sep 03 20:55:13 2008
Subject: Mississippian .... Gov. Palin's Speech ... WOW

First, please thank Gov. Palin for visiting Mississippi and showing her concern with the hurricane this week. We really appreciate it more than she could possibly know.

Secondly, please pass along to Gov. Palin that she gave an outstanding speech tonight. I watched it on FoxNews then flipped to a couple of networks and I believe the correct word would be "stunned".

Congratulations to someone who has inspired a lot of people tonight and probably single handedly brought a lot of pride to many Americans. Thanks Gov. Palin.

Tiffany S. Strunk
Latter & Blum Heritage Realty
1205 Jackson Ave.
Pascagoula, MS 39567
228-769-1771
228-769-1775 Fax
www.latter-blum.com

Unknown

From: McAllister, William D (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=WDMCALLISTER]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 8:59 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Cc: Nizich; Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Thursday

Sent using BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: McAllister, William D (GOV)

To: 'gov.sarah@alaska.gov' <gov.sarah@alaska.gov>

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); 'mike.nizich@alaska.com' <mike.nizich@alaska.com>

Sent: Wed Sep 03 20:56:40 2008

Subject: Thursday

Governor,

Job very well done, by all accounts. Fox wants me on-air tomorrow and would like it if I could chat with you first. Please call for a few minutes in the morning.

Everyone wants you, of course, including the Alaska media.

--Bill, 306-5201

Sent using BlackBerry

Unknown

From: Balash, Joseph R (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JRBALASH]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 8:38 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Wow!

That was amazing! Great job!

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 9:57 AM
To: Rhonda McBride; Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Re: Alaska's Rural Nature

Excellent- thanks so much Rhonda!

------Original Message------

From: Rhonda McBride

To: Governor Sarah Palin

To: Kris Perry

Sent: Sep 3, 2008 10:26 AM

Subject: Alaska's Rural Nature

Saw an article this morning putting down Alaska as a state with a small population.... that governing its small population really wasn't a big deal.

In reality it's just the opposite.

Alaska is really like five or six states. And governing it is much more complicated than most states.

The federal government pioneered new aviation technology in Alaska, because it encompasses more geographic challenges than any other state. From the rain forests of Southeast...to the formidable peaks of Denali... to the tundra of Southwest... to the arctic ocean in Barrow.... Alaska is almost like a nation within a nation. The challenges of just about every rural community in America have been played out in Alaska.

Almost all branches of the military regularly use Alaska for training because of these challenges. With more miles of coastline than any other state, Alaska is on the forefront of climate change -- and the military is looking at helping us to move entire communities out of harm's way as an excercise in readiness training.

Alaska's peoples are incredibly diverse. We still hear Tlingit, Yupik and Athabascan, ancient Native languages spoken -- along with more than a hundred languages spoken in the Anchorage school district. Alaska's strategic location has made it the crossroads for the world.

This mix of cultures and challenges have made Alaska an exciting place, where America's can do spirit lives in our state's unique solutions -- whether it's as complex as building a natural gas pipeline... or running a dog team across a thousand miles of wilderness.

Just some thoughts...

Hope they help.

RHONDA MCBRIDE'S CONTACT INFO:

Personal E-mail: rhonda9hats@mac.com

Work E-mail: rhonda.mcbride@alaska.gov

Home: (907) 258-2877

Work: (907) 269-7451

Cell: (907) 351-4240

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: Julie Grant [jaginak@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 6:11 PM
To: tcwebmail (EED sponsored)
Cc: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); Ledoux; Larry S (EED)
Subject: Re: Subject: Education_ Julie Grant

Dear TC Department,

Please forward this message to your supervisors.

I work at Campbell Elementary School. In my building alone three teachers (Sarah Hooker, Amanda Sparks and myself, Julie Grant) are waiting for their yellow cards to accept contracts from the Anchorage School District. Our 18 days to teach in a classroom without certification is up on September 8. We have all experienced the same lack of customer service regarding phone calls and e-mails that have been ignored or answers that are non-responsive. Your department does not provide a free service to Alaska's teachers. In fact, a certificate costs about a day's salary.

The three of us are frustrated and we feel helpless. Our lives are truly in limbo waiting for our "yellow cards." We are without job security, insurance and the rights of contracted teachers.

I have had my certificate renewed before. It took two weeks. When I had questions regarding my application a representative helped me immediately by phone. The current situation of your department is so outrageous it deserves to be investigated. The hardship this has caused me and other teachers in my position is extreme. If this situation is not rectified to my satisfaction by Friday, September 5, I will contact an attorney to represent my interests as well as the news media. I now realize that I have teachers in my own building with the same issues. I'm quite certain with a little more investigating I will find a news worthy story to present to the local news media. With all eyes on Alaska's politics this isn't a good time.

Teachers are a valuable resource and they deserve to be treated with respect.
Sincerely,
Julie Grant
Privileged or P

----- Original Message ----
From: tcwebmail (EED sponsored) <tcwebmail@alaska.gov>
To: Julie Grant <jaginak@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2008 11:30:18 AM
Subject: RE: Subject: Education_ Julie Grant

Thank you for your suggestions. As we have previously mentioned, we are not able to provide any processing times, but you may check back on the status as often as you like.

Teacher Certification
Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
801 West 10th Street, Suite 200
PO Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811-0500
(907) 465-2831

www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification

NOTICE: Effective April 1, 2008, Teacher Certification will only accept cashier's checks, money orders, and credit cards.

From: Julie Grant [mailto:jaginak@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tue 9/2/2008 5:24 PM
To: tcwebmail (EED sponsored)
Subject: Re: Subject: Education_ Julie Grant

Are you capable of answering simple questions? You have had my application for nearly three weeks. I just want to know that it is in a pile of applications to be processed. How much longer do you expect it to take to process applications received on August 15? I am sure you have the ability to estimate.

Let me lay out a plan for you to take to your supervisors:
1. Applications received should be stamped with the date received.
2. A clerk or a receptionist should open all incoming applications and check them for completeness
3. Incomplete applications should be returned immediately to the sender for completion
4. Complete applications get logged into the database as pending/received-- yellow card status
5. Cash checks and run credit cards-- based on the numbers Meredith gave you are collecting about $250,000 in revenue
6. Separate renewal applications from new certificate applications
7. Place one team on renewing applications and one team on new certificates.

In my estimation it should take five minutes maximum to check an application for completeness. A clerk or a receptionist can process applications for pending status.

Instead of blaming this problem on me, take some responsibility for your work. I am not the only teacher in a holding pattern waiting for your department to process our applications.

----- Original Message ----
From: tcwebmail (EED sponsored) <tcwebmail@alaska.gov>
To: jaginak@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2008 12:20:05 PM
Subject: RE: Subject: Education_ Julie Grant

Your emails have not been ignored. We're replying to emails that we receive. There could be a possibility that your email was filtered by our spam filter. It is required to be set on the highest level due to the large amount of spam mail that comes into this email.

We are only able to acknowledge receipt when the application has been reviewed, however, it seems that you have postal confirmation of receipt, so you may go by that. Applications are considered effective as of the date a complete application is received.

We did look up your file and notice that you are renewing a certificate. Please note that we always suggest that a renewal is submitted six months in advance of the expiration date. In your case, we would have accepted your application as early as February.

Teacher Certification
Alaska Department of Education & Early Development

801 West 10th Street, Suite 200
PO Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811-0500
(907) 465-2831
www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification

NOTICE: Effective April 1, 2008, Teacher Certification will only accept cashier's checks, money orders, and credit cards.

From: Julie Grant [mailto:jaginak@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tue 9/2/2008 11:31 AM
To: tcwebmail (EED sponsored)
Subject: Re: Subject: Education_ Julie Grant

I have sent numerous e-mails to your office that have been ignored, so have my phone calls-- I do have the records. I have had direct contact with Meredith Boman and Commissioner Ledoux. I have sent e-mails to Governor Palin's office. I have asked repeatedly for confirmation that my application was received by your office. That request has been ignored, even when my e-mails have been answered. I want to know that my application is in the pile. The post office delivered it 18 days ago. I want to know what week of applications you are working on currently.

I am furious that this process has taken so long. It is outrageous that anyone should have to wait this long to get answers that are not helpful. This hold up has caused an enormous hardship in professional and personal life.

Please answer my questions.

Julie Grant

--- On Tue, 9/2/08, tcwebmail (EED sponsored) <tcwebmail@alaska.go nsored) <tcwebmail@alaska.gov>
> Subject: Subject: Education_ Julie Grant
> To: jaginak@yahoo.com
> Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2008, 10:47 AM
> Julie,
>
> We don't have record of receiving any emails from you,
> and as indicated in our phone message, email is the quickest
> way to correspond with our office.
>
> We have not yet reviewed your application. Feel free to
> check back at anytime on the progress. We're reviewing
> mail everyday and processing it in the order in which it is
> received.
>
> Teacher Certification
>
> Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
> 801 West 10th Street, Suite 200
> PO Box 110500
> Juneau, AK 99811-0500
> (907) 465-2831
> www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification
>
>
> NOTICE: Effective April 1, 2008, Teacher Certification will
> ecks, money orders, and >>
> -----Original Message-----
>

> From: Castle, Lillian K (GOV)
>
> Sent: Friday, August 29, 2008 2:40 PM
>
> To: Calhoon, Chad L (EED)
>
> Subject: Education_ Julie Grant
>
> Chad,
>
> Would you please forward this email to the appropriate
> person that could help her. She seems to be having a hard
> time getting through to the teacher certification office.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Mrs. Lynn Castle
>
> Executive Office Assistant
>
> Office of the Governor
>
> 907-465-3500
>
> 907-465-3532 (fax)
>
>
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
>
> From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
>
> Sent: Wednesday, August 27, 2008 5:17 PM
>
> To: jaginak@yahoo.com
>
> Subject: RE: Education
>
g to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The
> co information you have sent are
> important and valuable to the Governor. Although she is
> unable to respond to each and every email herself, your
> message has been received and is being reviewed by the
> appropriate staff person in this office who can best address
> your need, suggestion, or comment.
>
> -----Original Message-----
>
> From: WebMail@govweb.alaska.gov
> [mailto:WebMail@govweb.alaska.gov
> <mailto:WebMail@govweb.alaska.gov>]
>
> Sent: Wednesday, August 27, 2008 4:44 PM
>
> To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
>
> Subject: Education
>
> Web mail from: Ms. Julie Grant

>
> address: 10245 Goodnews Circle Anchorage AK 99515
>
> 907-952-5555
>
> MESSAGE vernor Palin,
& to get my teaching certificate renewed for
> the last two weeks. The department that handles teaching
> certificates has their calls and e-mail forwarded. They do
> not respond timely and the responses that I have gotten have
> not answered a single question asked. After two weeks, I
> finally got through to Meridith Boman, who said that my
> application has not been reviewed and they have no idea when
> it might be reviewed. All that needs to occur is to have my
> application entered as being received for me to sign a
> teaching contract for the Anchorage School District. I am
> currently teaching in the position that has been offered to
> me. In eight days I will no longer be able to teach in this
> position, because I do have a certificate. My husband is
> unable to work at this time, so my job will be the only
> income for our family. If I am unable to s ; Friday I will go another month without i amily. I need some help and I have no idea what else to do

Unknown

From: Tom Miller [tommiller@ketchikandailynews.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 2:40 PM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); Ruaro; Randall P (GOV)
Subject: Fwd: Palin's record — in Ketchikan — about the Bridge to Nowhere

Randy,

Tom Miller here, in Ketchikan. I thought you might like to see this e-mail I sent off to the media big shots this morning. I would send it to her and to the Republican establishment, but have no idea how to do that or how long before anyone might see it.

Good luck in the new job.

Go Palin!

Tom Miller
Reporter
tom@ketchikandailynews.com

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Tom Miller <tommiller@ketchikandailynews.com>
> **Date:** September 3, 2008 12:36:04 PM ADT
> **To:** evening@cbsnews.com, Foxreport@foxnews.com, Special@foxnews.com, editor@usatoday.com, info@cnbc.com, wsj.ltrs@wsj.com, Colmes@foxnews.com, 60II@cbsnews.com, newshour@pbs.org, info@ap.org, news-tips@nytimes.com, joe@msnbc.com, Ontherecord@foxnews.com, ElRushbo@eibnet.com, Oreilly@foxnews.com, nightly@nbc.com, hardball@msnbc.com, nightline@abcnews.com
> **Subject: Palin's record — in Ketchikan — about the Bridge to Nowhere**
>
> Dear Media Moguls,
>
> I am Tom Miller, a reporter at the Ketchikan Daily News for the past 18 years. Ketchikan is the town on the other end of the Bridge to Nowhere.
>
> Don't be fooled by bloggers or others saying Palin was inconsistent about the bridge when she was in Ketchikan, offering limited support for the project, compared to how she acted as governor, when she nixed it in its expensive form.
>
> Here are stories written by our Ketchikan Daily News reporter, Scott Bowlen, about Palin in Ketchikan while running for governor, and what she said later when she cut the bridge from consideration. I've highlighted portions I think are pertinent to her stand on the issue.
>
> She emphasized "reasonableness" and said at the beginning, in the first statement I know of on the topic, that the bridge, as promoted, was "grandiose."
>
> It's important to realize there were about 13 alternative designs for this bridge. It was the

community that insisted on the most expensive version for various reasons.

From our Aug. 9, 2006, edition, when Palin campaigned in Ketchikan:

Palin: It's about service to people

By SCOTT BOWLEN
Daily News Staff Writer

While her opponents in the Aug. 22 gubernatorial primary election might be fighting to attract support from the state's Republican Party machinery, Sarah Palin says her support is more from the independent, grass-roots Republicans who believe in the planks of the party's platform: Sound resource development, respect for equality, and support for competition and free enterprise.

"It's all about serving people," Palin said Saturday in Ketchikan.

"It's not about cronyism and the networks and the buying and selling of influence via special interests and big campaign fundraisers," she said. "I'm not into that. I'm not going to do that. That's not the way I'm campaigning. That's not the way I will serve Alaskans as governor."

Palin, 42, was visiting Ketchikan for the Blueberry Arts Festival, where she had campaign booth.

It was Palin's first campaign stop in Ketchikan for the governor's race. She'd visited in 2002 while running for lieutenant governor in the Republican primary election, a five-candidate race that she lost to Loren Leman by a vote of 21,076 to 19,114 (29.3 percent to 26.2 percent).

Although this is her second statewide campaign, Palin's best known in Wasilla, where she served two terms on the Wasilla City Council and six years as the city's mayor.

Wasilla has a "strong mayor" form of municipal government, meaning that the mayor serves as the municipality's manager.

Palin said her accomplishments in that role included reducing property taxes every year she was in office; eliminating personal property taxes and attracting investment to Wasilla.

In 2003, Gov. Frank Murkowski appointed Palin and Alaska Republican Party Chair Randy Ruedrich to the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. Palin, who became chair of the commission, resigned in 2004 after finding that Ruedrich was conducting party business on state time.

She also was involved in a formal ethics complaint against then-Attorney General Gregg Renkes, who later resigned the post.

"I haven't been hesitant to speak up and speak out when I see things amiss in the state administration, in the Republican Party," Palin told reporters Saturday in Ketchikan. "I haven't hesitated in speaking up for Alaskans, many of whom have expected me to do the right thing and not allow obsessive partisanship get in the way of doing the right thing."

Palin talked with reporters about several issues of state and local interest, including the Murkowski administration's proposed natural gas pipeline contract and changes to the state's oil production taxes.

Palin said the state's overall goal should be a "mutually beneficial relationship" with the multinational oil corporations.

She noted that her husband, Todd Palin, has worked in oil production on the North Slope for 18 years.

"I so appreciate and respect these multinational corporations' contributions to our state, both personally — my family's bread and butter — and as a regulator, understanding what the multinationals provide to the national economy and our state economy," she said.

Palin said she understands that oil company shareholders require their executives to stay focused on the companies' bottom lines.

However, Alaska's CEO, the governor, has a constitutional mandate to look out for the state's people and not concede anything more than necessary to advance natural resource projects, she said.

Palin believes the gas line contract and oil tax changes should be separate issues.

Regarding oil production taxes, Palin said she prefers a simple system based on the gross value of a barrel of oil rather than the governor's proposed system of taxing the companies' net profits.

"The problem ... with a production profits tax is, let the accounting games begin," Palin said. "We will have to create a bureaucracy to audit British Petroleum and ConocoPhillips and what they report to us as their expenses and their profits."

Palin said she doesn't "have a lot of faith" in where the proposed natural gas pipeline contract is heading. She said Murkowski's proposal isn't an actual contract to build the pipeline, just the terms of an agreement so the

oil companies can study whether they might build a pipeline at some time in the future.
She said the process toward a gas pipeline should involve entities competing for the right to tap the resource,
"We should have a competitive and flexible environment, considering all viable options for this gas line, instead of just negotiating (with) Exxon and British Petroleum," Palin said.
Another problem she sees is that the proposed contract doesn't contain a guarantee that there will be in-state use of Alaska's gas.
"We're looking at — and it's an abhorrent thought to me — importing natural gas as Alaska is sitting on some of the richest reserves on the globe," she said. "If we don't have a right to tap our own resources and fuel our homes, our businesses, our economy first ... then the deficiencies in this gas line contract or agreement are too great and we should not go forward with it."
She acknowledged, however, that the Legislature could decide those issues within the next few days, long before she would occupy the governor's chair.
"I understand if the legislators so choose, that will be what I have to work with," she said.
Regarding her basic philosophy on general natural resource development issues, Palin said she adheres to the state constitution's requirement to maximize the benefits of resource development for the people of Alaska.
She said she also understands the "significance and the importance of a clean, safe, sound environment."
Maintaining that will allow Alaskans and Americans who are concerned about a "clean, healthy environment here" to support resource development in Alaska.
"We need their support," she said.

Support from other Americans and Alaskans is needed also to move forward with the proposed bridge between Revillagigedo and Gravina islands, she said.
"People across the nation struggle with the idea of building a bridge because they've been under these misperceptions about the bridge and the purpose," said Palin, who described the link as the Ketchikan area's potential for expansion and growth.
The Ketchikan community now needs to have a strong, unified effort to say whether it wants the bridge or not.
"And if you want the thing, there needs to be good justification," she said.
"There needs to be the reasonableness that the rest of Alaska and the rest of the United States wants to see."
She said that reasonableness could include a compromise in design and cost, such as limiting the link to a single span instead of the two-span Revilla-Pennock-Gravina route.
"It's pretty grandiose here, what is proposed," she said.
Palin said Alaska's congressional delegation worked hard to obtain funding for the bridge as part of a package deal and that she "would not stand in the way of the progress toward that bridge."

She said she's been reading a lot about the stalled Swan Lake-Tyee Lake electrical intertie, and it sounds like the state and federal government are pointing fingers, with each entity not wanting to provide funding until the other one does.
"With as much investment as has already gone into this project, if it's good for the consumer, then yes, we need to contribute to this basic infrastructure," she said.
The intertie would be a "backbone" to the region's economy, she said.
Regarding Ballot Measure 2, part of which would create a state $50 per-passenger tax on cruise ship visitors, Palin said she sees both sides of the issue.
Tourists use municipal infrastructure that is paid for by local property tax payers, and she'd like to see "all industries contribute to eventually lead to lower property taxes across Alaska," she said. 'On the other hand, inherently, I just don't like taxes."
She said she'll be listening to the "mom-and pop" visitor businesses that cater to the independent travelers.
"If they tell me they are adversely affected by this head tax, I don't support it," she said. "The multinational

corporations, those ships that are flagged in the Bahamas or other areas so they can escape the U.S. corporate income tax and all the other kind of other loopholes they fit into, I'm not as worried about them as I am about Alaskan-owned businesses."

Palin said the state needs to get state politics out of the Alaska Marine Highway System to allow ferry users and the system's operators to cooperatively discuss the transportation needs of Southeast Alaska.

The ferry system is Southeast's transportation system and it deserves respect, she said.

"We have our roads in Southcentral Alaska, (and) we put a lot of resources toward improvements constantly in the road system," Palin said. "I think the ferry system deserves the same."

Palin said she has supported building a road to Juneau for years, but doesn't believe the current "Juneau Access" proposal necessarily addresses the issue because it still requires a ferry ride.

"I don't look at what's proposed as a road out of Juneau when it goes to an as-yet-to-be-built ferry terminal," she said.

Also, Palin said she has lots of concerns about the project's cost and maintenance issues.

Palin added that she thinks Juneau already is "doing a wonderful job as a community in allowing and creating more access to the seat of government — and I would like to see the seat of government stay there in Juneau."

Palin's husband has a limited entry permit for the commercial set gillnet fishery in Bristol Bay.

Taking aim at the recent federal rationalization processes for Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands crab and now groundfish, Palin said she's a proponent of free enterprise and competition in the commercial fishing industry.

"I want fishermen and fishing communities to be able have much more of a say in where they are able to sell their fish," Palin said, noting crew job losses and the "processor share" aspect of the crab rationalization program.

"We need to be ever vigilant on the proposals for the processor shares that take away a fisherman's right to sell to whomever they deem is the best buyer who will provide the best market for their products," she said.

Standing up for all Alaskans is a central tenant of Palin's campaign, as is the concept of "positive change."

Palin readily admits that some of her opponents in the GOP Republican primary election field of Frank Murkowski, John Binkley, Gerald Heikes and Merica Hlatcu have more political experience than she.

But she said that during her earlier campaign for lieutenant governor, people were telling her, "all those years of experience don't necessarily lead to better public service. Maybe we do need new vision, new energy, new ideas."

"That's what I had to offer then, and what I have to offer now," Palin said.

E-mail:sbowlen@ketchikandailynews.com

Here's one from Oct. 2, 2006, when she came to Ketchikan to debate other candidates:

Palin says to band together

By SCOTT BOWLEN
Daily News Staff Writer

Sarah Palin believes Alaskans must start working together — avoiding excessive partisanship and regional divides — to advance a pro-Alaska agenda for building the infrastructure that the state needs to prosper.

"Really banding together, defending one another, defending our regions when we're up against so much across the nation right now," Palin told local media Sept. 20 before the gubernatorial candidate forum in Ketchikan.

Palin, a former mayor of Wasilla, is the Republican candidate for governor, facing Democrat Tony Knowles and independent candidate Andrew Halcro in the Nov. 7 general election.

Her participation in the candidate forum marked her second campaign appearance in the Ketchikan; the first was during the Blueberry Arts Festival in early August before the GOP primary election in which she defeated Gov. Frank Murkowski and challenger John Binkley.

After winning that election, said Palin, a lot of the early focus has been on fund-raising ("my least favorite part of the campaign").

But there've also been efforts to repair relationships within the state Republican party damaged during the contentious primary election.

"There's still some fences there, I guess, to be mended, but my mission there is — even in Anchorage where the party headquarters and the party hierarchy are — focusing on uniting all Alaskans, not just those in the Republican party who may not want to get on the train and move forward with the candidate who maybe was not their chosen one," Palin said.

In that regard, Palin said she's encouraged by what she's seen across the state during the campaign thus far.

Asked what issues she's hearing about from Southeast Alaskans, Palin said many residents here feel they've been ignored in some sense.
"I'm hearing from a lot of Southeast residents who believe that maybe they haven't been given their due respect," she said. "Part of my agenda is making sure that Southeast is heard. That your projects are important. That we go to bat for Southeast when we're up against federal influences that aren't in the best interest of Southeast."

She cited the widespread negative attention focused on the Gravina Island crossing project.
"We need to come to the defense of Southeast Alaska when proposals are on the table like the bridge and not allow the spinmeisters to turn this project or any other into something that's so negative," Palin said.
The Gravina bridge proposal has been a priority of Govs. Frank Murkowski, Tony Knowles and previous governors as well as the Alaska Department of Transportation, said Palin.
"There needs to be a link between Ketchikan and its future and its future opportunities and progress, opening up land in this area," she said.
Palin said she was excited to see road construction projects under way in Ketchikan, which she views as a good sign of progress and recognition that infrastructure is necessary for economic opportunity.
Her focus while in municipal government was on providing road, water and sewer infrastructure, she said.
"Making sure that government plays the proper role in providing the tools for the private sector to grow and to progress," Palin said.
She addressed large-scale infrastructure projects in Southeast Alaska such as the half-completed Swan Lake-Tyee Lake electrical intertie and the Juneau Access road.
Palin said she still hasn't heard "any compelling reason" that the Swan-Tyee link should not be finished. The state and federal governments should be working together toward the final funding package.
"I want to see that project completed also, and provide low-cost energy for this area," Palin said. "That's a foundation of growth and opportunity — low-cost energy."
Palin added that the state has begun studying a power link between Southeast Alaska and the Canadian/Lower 48 electrical grid, but should stay focused on one project.
"I think we need to stay focused on one or the other and not kind-of half heartedly put in tens of millions of dollars like we have so far in this Swan-Tyee intertie, and then kind of shift gears a bit there, and start looking at another connection elsewhere," she said.
Regarding the Juneau Access project, Palin said she and many other Alaskans want to be able to drive to the capital city, adding that the ability to do so would remove an argument used by supporters of moving the capital.
The Juneau Road would allow the Alaska Marine Highway System to redirect ferry resources away from Lynn Canal and provide more consistent service to other Southeast Alaska communities that rely on ferry service.
"It's kind of a domino effect ... and that's one of the sensible things that I think should take place," she said.
Palin also voiced support for the AMHS and the Ketchikan Shipyard.
She also commented on timber and mining issues, noting that extreme environmental groups and some within the federal government oppose the development of Alaska's natural resources.
Palin said Alaska is obligated by its statehood compact and constitution to develop its resources so it can be less reliant on the federal government.
"The governor has to defend Alaska's interests and go to bat for that idea of making sure that we have access to our timber, to our resource development, so we can fulfill the obligations that we have," she said.
The state's Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute is doing a "fine job" of informing the world about the health and cleanliness of seafood produced here, but more work is needed to improve the fishing industry itself, according to Palin.
"I'm a commercial fisherman, my husband and I, in Bristol Bay," she said.
"(I recognize) that statewide we need to start looking at doing some things differently to revitalize the industry, to market the industry even better."
More competition among processors for fishermen's catch would help boost the value for the harvesters, she said, using her own fishery as an example.
"I sell my fish in Bristol Bay to Peter Pan ... because they're the only processors there," she said. "If we had competing buyers in the region ... I think you'd see more value for the product that we're supplying."
The state can have a role in allowing the needed competition, said Palin.

If elected, she said, her administration would work toward achieving a balance among the fishermen, regions and processors. One way to do that is to get politics out of the board and council processes that decide Alaska fishery issues.
"In the past we have seen some special interests, it seems to be, dictating some of the decisions that have been made, when we talk about with rationalization in the Kodiak area especially, and processor shares which resulted in about 30 percent fewer crew members being needed, the jobs in the local communities being eliminated because of rationalization in some areas," Palin said.
"We have to look at balance in these decisions that are being made, and understand that what is good for the fishermen is good for the processors and it's good for the local communities," Palin said.
Regarding another industry of importance in Southeast Alaska, Palin was asked whether she would look at changing some aspects of the recently approved state Ballot Measure 2 that institutes a $50 state head tax on cruise ship passengers along with several other requirements of cruise ship operations and disclosures of some business price mark-up information.
Palin said it was too early to say the ballot measure has caused negative impacts on the industry. She said the measure itself was long and convoluted, but she believes most Alaska voters focused on the head tax in making their decision.
"I think that's what caught their attention and I think there's an atmosphere right now anyway, of distrust of government in this state, distrust of industry," Palin said. "And I think this was a tool that a lot of Alaska voters used to say, 'Come on now, these are outside interests coming in to utilize our infrastructure and all these attributes of Alaska. That industry needs to pay its fair share.'"
Any legal challenge to the ballot measure more likely would be directed at its non-tax provisions, she said.
"If there's going to be litigation and a challenge, A, we need to figure out what is the grave concern," Plain said.
For example, if the measure's requirement for disclosure of certain kinds of proprietary information causes problems for businesses and violates existing law, "I could see that that's where this litigation will go," she said.
Palin said she thinks the $50 cruise head tax should provide some relief for local property tax payers.
"I think that was kind of inferred as part of the deal also — that as cruise ship passengers help with the infrastructure improvements, that will lessen the burden on local property tax payers," she said. "I hope that local property tax payers do see that relief so they're not ... disenchanted with this type of system."
Speaking of another type of revenue relief, Palin said it's a "shame" that the state's program to share part of its revenues with municipalities has "dried up."
She said the state could afford municipal revenue sharing back when the price of oil, the primary source of state government revenue, was at $9 a barrel. Now, with oil prices much higher, the state says it can't afford the program, said Palin.
"Local government is the most responsive and responsible level of government," Palin said. "Where the wealth of the state can be trickled down into local communities and into the hands of the people that live here, and the local communities can prioritize best for the needs, the services to be provided."
Sharing revenue also helps curtail "overgrowth" of state government, she said.
Overall, said Palin, there's a recognition within Alaska that it's time to start working together and not allowing "politics as usual" to get in the way of the state's progress. That includes defending Alaska's interests on the national level.
"Alaska's not looked at real highly by many across the nation and that's so unfortunate because the people who live here are good, hardworking people who don't necessarily want a lot of government in their lives," Palin said. "But the infrastructure that's needed here in order for it to get on the right road to self-sufficiency, we do need that cooperation with the federal government and we do need cooperation from the other 49 states to help us progress."
E-mail:sbowlen@ketchikandailynews.com

Finally, published on Sept. 22, 2007, when the decision was made to not support the expensive version:

It's official:

Palin nixes F-1 bridge alternative; local reps disappointed to hear it

By SCOTT BOWLEN
Daily News Staff Writer
and The Associated Press

Gov. Sarah Palin announced Friday that the state's preferred alternative for the Gravina Access project is no longer an option, making official what the state transportation commissioner warned the community at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon here last month.
But Palin has indicated that she'll take local mayors up on their invitation to come to Ketchikan to discuss access issues.
Palin has directed the Alaska Department of Transportation to look for "the most fiscally responsible alternative" for linking Revillagigedo Island with Gravina Island and the Ketchikan International Airport.

"Ketchikan desires a better way to reach the airport, but the $398 million bridge is not the answer," Gov. Sarah Palin said in a prepared statement.
Other bridge options can be considered, said Sharon Leighow, Palin's deputy press secretary.
But any bridge option will cost "hundreds of millions of dollars," Leighow said. She said the Ketchikan Gateway Borough had asked DOT to look at ferry options, "and that's what we're going to focus on."
About $36 million in federal money intended for Gravina Access now will be available for other projects in Alaska, according to the announcement.
Palin has directed DOT Commissioner Leo von Scheben to develop a list of uses for that money.
"There is no question we desperately need to construct new roads in this state, including in Southeast Alaska, where skyrocketing costs for the Alaska Marine Highway System present an impediment to the state's budget and the region's economy," von Scheben said in a prepared statement.
Local mayors and legislators voiced strong displeasure with Palin's decision — and with the idea that even more of the federal funding that had been sought by community members, legislators and the Alaska congressional delegation to improve access to Gravina likely will be used elsewhere.
In addition, the Palin administration and DOT did not attempt to contact Sen. Bert Stedman, R-Sitka, co-chair of the Senate Finance Committee, or Rep. Kyle Johansen, R-Ketchikan, chair of the House Transportation Committee, about the decision until Friday morning.
"I am livid," Johansen said Friday afternoon.
He said the governor's decisions, von Scheben's comments in the press release and the absence of effort to involve the local community display a lack of respect, statesmanship and leadership.
"I think obviously there's a disconnect with the governor's office and what's important to this community," Johansen said.

Ketchikan Gateway Borough Mayor Joe Williams and City of Ketchikan Mayor Bob Weinstein said they learned of the decision via Palin's press release and press reports on Friday morning.
"I think we're disappointed as much in the process of the decision and how we got to that decision as much as the decision itself," Weinstein said on behalf of himself and Williams during a press conference late Friday morning.
The mayors and lawmakers questioned the governor's action in light of her many calls for open and transparent government.
"We got (Friday's) news release like everyone else did," Williams said. "Where is the participation of the local people? Would she do this to her local constituents in Wasilla?"
Stedman said that improving access to Gravina has been an economic priority for Ketchikan, the State of Alaska and the congressional delegation for more than 30 years.
"I'm shocked that the governor would ignore the significant energy, hard work and financial resources already invested in the project," Stedman said.
Republicans U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens and U.S. Rep. Don Young championed the project through Congress two years ago, securing $223 million in funds for the bridge.
Under mounting political pressure over pork projects, Congress stripped the earmark — or stipulation — that the money be used for the airport.
Ultimately, Congress still sent the money to the state, but for any use it deemed appropriate. The state eventually took much of that money for other projects around the state.
A spokeswoman from Young's office said he would have no comment. Stevens spokesman Aaron Saunders said Friday that Stevens is interested in how the state uses remaining funds.
Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, said safe and reliable access to the airport has been a Ketchikan priority for more than three decades.
"When the State of Alaska requested resources to build a bridge, the congressional delegation worked hard to secure funding," Murkowski said in a prepared statement. "It is unfortunate for the people of Ketchikan that the state has chosen to re-prioritize its support of the project."
Though the earmark was removed, it still is being held up as the centerpiece example of waste and poor prioritizing by lawmakers.
Just last month, presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, R-Arizona, weighed in, saying pet projects could have played a role in a Minnesota bridge collapse that killed 13 people.
"Maybe if we had done it right, maybe some of that money would have gone to inspect those bridges and other bridges around the country," McCain told a group of people in a town-hall style meeting in Ankeny, Iowa.
"Maybe the 200,000 people who cross that bridge every day would have been safer than spending $233 million of your tax dollars on a bridge in Alaska to an island with 50 people on it."
Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Member Mike Painter said the label "bridge to nowhere," is misplaced.
"The fact is, that's our international airport across the channel," Painter said. "Somewhere in the neighborhood of 300,000 people go back and forth annually to the airport."

On Friday, Palin's statement said the Ketchikan-Gravina project was $329 million short of getting fully funded.
"The federal government is less and less interested in continuing to fund these projects, she said. "It can't be a state priority for DOT when we have much-needed road and bridge improvements. Our intention is to work with the community to find a sensible and efficient shuttle connection, a better ferry service."

The bridge alternative that's now officially off the table is the so-called "F-1" option, which includes two high bridges, one each over the east and west channels of Tongass Narrows, respectively, and touching on Pennock Island. Identified as the project's preferred alternative in the 2005 final Gravina Access Environmental Impact Statement, the F-1 option is estimated by the state to cost about $398 million.

"We will continue to look for options for Ketchikan to allow better access to the island," Palin said. "The concentration is not going to be on a $400 million bridge."

Weinstein said DOT has "padded"' its bridge estimates, while low-balling estimates for projects that he said the agency would rather build.

"The cost of the proposed Ketchikan project had been repeatedly hyper-inflated while the cost for other projects, such as the Juneau Access road, have been consistently underestimated or have had no inflation because a nucleus of Southeast DOT people and other DOT staff members, which, in my mind , are members of what can best be described as a cabal, happen to be proponents of other projects," Weinstein said.

John MacKinnon, DOT's deputy commissioner for highways, said Friday that $398 million estimate resulted from several factors, including the type of design needed to satisfy the desires for cruise ships to be able to pass underneath and for no structures higher than the bridge deck to interfere with float plane traffic.

"As this thing evolved ... almost everything about it is probably the most expensive thing you could have done," MacKinnon said.

He added that inflation rates for construction using concrete and steel have increased "significantly" in recent years.

"The comment that we have artificially inflated the cost of the bridge, I don't buy that," MacKinnon said.

He said the federal National Environmental Policy Act requires the state to re-open the EIS record of decision, re-examine the alternatives, and select a new alternative.

"We're not starting from scratch," MacKinnon said of the process. "A vast amount of the work has already been done."

But the lawmakers and mayors question the state's interest in the project.

"If you're the DOT and you do not want to build this project— like DOT has not wanted to build this project forever — what do you do?" Johansen said.

More study adds further delay and cost, he said.

"Every year that you wait it gets more expensive," Johansen said. "It's a waiting game. ... It's basically a stall tactic to kill the project."

Weinstein noted that DOT officials have said that different types of hard links, such as a steel bridge, might cost in the more-affordable range of $200 million to $220 million.

"But certainly, even if the hard access turns out to be not affordable under the current climate, there clearly needs to be improvements to the ferry system, especially for long-term benefit of this community," Weinstein said. "By taking the money, that can't even happen."

The state's original diversion of a large portion of the $223 million in federal highway funding to other projects still rankles many in Ketchikan. Losing what's described as the remaining $36 million in federal funds for projects elsewhere is especially difficult to take, said the mayors and lawmakers.

"It should not be spread over the state of Alaska," Williams said. "The state of Alaska did

not seek after those funds. It was the community of Ketchikan that sought after the funds. If the decision was ever made that a bridge was not affordable, those funds should still remain in the community of Ketchikan, and if (that) means just living off the interest to operate our ferry system, then so be it."
Johansen also took exception to von Scheben's comment that increased costs for the state ferry system are impeding the state budget and the region's economy.
"This is not a subsidy; the marine system is integral to our economy," he said. "If the governor can find a road in Alaska that makes money I will go up there and do a jig on it."
Johansen noted that he, Stedman and Williams attended the Southeast Conference meeting this week in Skagway. Several DOT officials were present, but they didn't mention that a bridge decision was being made, he said.
Stedman said Palin's advocacy of open and transparent government "certainly doesn't seem to exist in this case."
"This governor never misses an opportunity to advocate for involving Alaskans in the governmental decision-making process," Stedman said in a prepared statement. "So it's troubling that she would take such drastic unilateral action without consulting either the Legislature or the affected community."
Williams and Weinstein extended the invitation to Palin to visit Ketchikan and talk with the community about the decision and improving access to Gravina.
"I don't want her to send her employees," Williams said. "It was not her employees that made that decision. It was her that made that decision. ... I want her to bring her people who helped her make that decision and explain to us in person, why the bridge was cut."
Palin administration spokesperson Leighow said that, "If a community leader feels slighted, it certainly wasn't intentional."
Palin will accept the mayors' invitation, Leighow said.
"The governor looks forward to visiting Ketchikan and working on access issues," Leighow said.
Some of the reaction to the bridge decision Friday has been positive, as well.
That includes the Alaska Transportation Priorities Project, an Anchorage-based group that promotes "sensible transportation systems in the state.
"With federal funding in decline, the state doesn't have the money for new transportation mega-projects, so Gov. Palin was wise to cancel the Gravina bridge project," said ATPP Director Lois Epstein, who also urged Palin to "carefully scrutinize" the proposed Juneau Access and Knik Arm bridge projects.
Saying the group supports improved ferry access to Gravina, Epstein said the remaining federal money should stay in Ketchikan.
"With some upgrades and proper maintenance, the ferry system ... will serve the community and visitors well," she said in a prepared statement.

Tom Miller
Reporter
tom@ketchikandailynews.com
907-225-3157
907-617-1914 (cell)

Unknown

From: McAllister, William D (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=WDMCALLISTER]

Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 9:15 PM

To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'

Subject: Fw: Gov. Palin's Speech

Sent using BlackBerry

From: Phil
To: McAllister, William D (GOV)
Sent: Wed Sep 03 21:12:01 2008
Subject: Gov. Palin's Speech

Bill,

The Governor's speech was perfectly delivered. The best line was her own, the line about the difference between a hockey mom and a pit bull. The personal bio portion was the next most compelling. The boiler plate portion of the speech, the part the McCain hacks inserted, didn't do the ticket much good.

My two cents? The governor has better political instincts than McCain. She can charm the socks off America if McCain and "his people" will simply let Sarah Palin be Sarah Palin. The governor didn't get herself an eighty percent approval rating by being anyone other than who she is. I hope she'll remember that.

In my opinion, the governor simply needs to get up to national security, foreign affairs and economic and McCain policy positions speed. Once she does that, I'd tell her to let her own fine mind and good political instincts sort out what should be said and how best to say it.

My two cents,
Phil